## **REMARKS**

The claims have been amended, and examination of the amended claims is respectfully requested. Amendments have been made to the title and abstract for consistency with the claim amendments. The specification has been amended to provided updated information for certain cited patents.

## **CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick M. Boucher Reg. No. 44,037

Patch ne

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834

Tel: 303-571-4000 Fax: 415-576-0300

PMB:pmb 60149445 v1